

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 PER-01 ABF-01 SS-15 SP-02
/033 W

-----003298 291247Z /47

R 291114Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6624

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 28665

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AODE, FR
SUBJECT: PERSONNEL LEVELS

REF: STATE 215057 AND 214407; PARIS 11655

1. STATE REFEELS REQUEST FURTHER COMMENTS ON THE
EMBASSY'S EVALUATIONS OF PERSONNEL LEVELS OF CERTAIN
OTHER AGENCIES IN LIGHT OF THESE AGENCIES' NON-
CONCURRENCE WITH THE EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

2. FIRST, EMBASSY IN GENERAL BELIEVES IT WORTHY OF
NOTE THAT THERE IS LITTLE DIFFERENCE IN THE NATURE
OF FOREIGN SERVICE WORK TO THAT OF OTHER AGENCIES
RELATIVE TO THE MIX AND VOLUME OF CLASSIFIED
MATERIAL AND GOVERNING EXECUTIVE ORDERS. FURTHER,
THOUGH CIRCUMSTANCES OF DECENTRALIZATION ARE MORE
UNFAVORABLE TO EMBASSY SECTIONS, IT IS INTERESTING
TO NOTE THE COMPARATIVE OFFICER/SECRETARY RATIOS OF
THE EMBASSY SECTIONS TO THOSE OF THE OTHER
AGENCIES.

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STATE FOREIGN SERVICE USSS IRS FBI
4:2 - 2.0 3:1.5 - 2.0 2:3 - .66
POLITICAL SECTION
11:5 - 2.20

ECONOMIC SECTION
18:3 - 6.00

CONSULAR SECTION

11:2 - 5.50

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

12:2 - 6.00

STATE RATIO 52:12 - 4.3

ICA

15:2 - 7.50

AS ASCERTAINED FROM THE ABOVE, STATE DEPARTMENT SECTIONS HAVE LESS FAVORABLE OFFICER/SECRETARY RATIOS THAN THE OTHER AGENCIES PARTICULARLY IN CONSIDERATION THAT OFFICE CONFIGURATIONS ALLOW THESE AGENCIES POOLED SECRETARIAL OPERATIONS. THE EMBASSY ITSELF IS PRECLUDED FROM DOING SO.

3. OTHER AGENCIES' RESPONSES ARE ADDRESSED INDIVIDUALLY AS FOLLOWS:

A. USSS

USSS DIRECTOR STATED THAT IT IS MANDATORY THAT THE FBI FIELD OFFICE MAINTAIN ITS TWO AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITIONS DUE TO THE NATURE OF CLASSIFIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MATERIAL HANDLED IN THE OFFICE, AND THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE SECRETARIES SERVE AS INTERPRETERS FOR THE AGENTS WITH FRENCH POLICE OFFICIALS ON SENSITIVE MATTERS. IT WAS BELIEVED BY USSS THAT A FOREIGN NATIONAL WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO REPRESENT USSS INTERESTS ON INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION IN MEETINGS WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS.

IT REMAINS THE EMBASSY'S OPINION THAT ONE AMERICAN SECRETARY SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE THE SI (SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE) MATERIAL WORKLOAD FOR FOUR OFFICERS, WITH THE SECOND AMERICAN SECRETARY REPLACED BY AN FSL. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE THAT FRENCH AUTHORITIES WOULD BE MORE RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS SENSITIVE MATTERS WITH A SECURITY-CLEARED FRENCH NATIONAL AS COMPARED TO AN AMERICAN SECRETARY, AS REPORTED BY THE USSS

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6625

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DIRECTOR. IT FURTHER IS NOTED THAT THE RESEARCH
ASSISTANT OF THE PARIS USSS FIELD OFFICE ALSO IS
A FRENCH NATIONAL. THE EMBASSY OFFICER/SECRETARIAL
RATIO IS OVER THREE TIMES THAT OF THE USSS FIELD OFFICE.

B. IRS

IRS COMMISSIONER REPLIED THAT IRS HAS ONLY ONE
FULL TIME SECRETARIAL POSITION UNDER MODE WHILE THE
SECOND SECRETARY IS A TEMPORARY HIRE USED "AS NEEDED."
FURTHER, IT WAS STATED THAT IRS HAS NO PRACTICALITY
TO CONDUCT SECURITY BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OF
FOREIGN NATIONALS AS REQUIRED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER.

EMBASSY RECORDS INDICATE THAT THE SECOND SECRETARY'S
POSITION IS A "LIMITED" PERMANENT PART-TIME APPOINT-
MENT REGULARLY SCHEDULED, IN PRACTICE, AT 20 HOURS
PER WEEK. THE SECRETARIAL STAFFING IS CORRECTED
TO 1 1/2 SECRETARIAL POSITIONS. THE EMBASSY CONTINUES
TO BELIEVE THAT IRS REASONABLY COULD OPERATE THE
OFFICE WITH ONE AMERICAN SECRETARY, CONVERTING THE
PART-TIME SECRETARIAL POSITION, IF NEEDED, TO AN FSL.
THE EMBASSY SECURITY SECTION ALSO IS PREPARED TO
CONDUCT BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OF FOREIGN NATIONALS
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FOR IRS UNDERSTANDING AUTHORITY OF LEGISLATION. THE
EMBASSY OFFICER/SECRETARY RATIO IS OVER THREE TIMES
THAT OF THE IRS FIELD OFFICE.

C. FBI

THE FBI STATES THAT THE CLASSIFIED NATURE OF
FBI WORK PRECLUDES EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN NATIONALS
IN THE FIELD OFFICE.

THE EMBASSY CONCURS WITH THIS ASSESSMENT, HOWEVER,
IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE OFFICE SHOULD BE ABLE TO
OPERATE WITH ONE AMERICAN SECRETARY FOR EACH OF THE
TWO OFFICERS VERSUS THE CURRENT THREE AMERICAN
SECRETARIES. THE EMBASSY OFFICER/SECRETARY RATIO
IS APPROXIMATELY SIX TIMES THAT OF THE FBI FIELD
OFFICE.

4. IT IS THE EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT THAT THESE FIELD
OFFICES COULD EFFICIENTLY OPERATE WITH FEWER
SECRETARIES ALTHOUGH CONSIDERATION MAY BE GIVEN TO
CONVERSION OF AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITIONS TO FSL
AS EARLIER RECOMMENDED IN PARIS REFTTEL.
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